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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERSFIELD



ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
and  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

---

for the year 1968

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PETERSFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

*With the Compliments of the  
Medical Officer of Health*

*The Old College,  
Petersfield, Hants.*

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERSFIELD

A N N U A L   R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERSFIELD

Chairman of the Council: Mr. H.J.C. Jones, F.I.O.B.  
Vice-Chairman of the Council: Major H.L.St.V. Rose  
Chairman of the Public Health Committee: The Rev. P.W. Gallup

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL  
for the year 1968/69

Mr. H.C. Ablitt, F.W.C.F.  
Mrs. Z. Adams  
Group Captain J.C. Barraclough  
Mr. C.G. Brook  
Mr. J.S.G. Crosland  
Admiral Sir R.L.F. Durnford-Slater, K.C.B.  
Lady Edwards  
Mr. I. Fry  
The Rev. P.W. Gallup  
Mr. A.D. Gill  
Commander G. Hare, R.N.(Retd.)  
Mr. H. Heath  
Mr. D.J. Holliday  
Lady Jaffray  
Mr. G.G. Jolliffe

Mr. H.J.C. Jones, F.I.O.B.  
Mrs. M.A. Keens  
Mr. W.G. Lambert  
Mr. M.S. Mitchell  
Mr. W.P. Ness  
Mrs. M.A. Newall-Watson  
Mr. L. Parvin  
Mr. S.S. Phillips  
Miss B. Rook  
Major H.L.St.V. Rose  
Mr. L.J.E. Sawyer  
Mr. S.B. Selmes, A.C.I.I.  
Mrs. M.E. Smith  
Mr. D.V.N. Toplis  
Mr. J.G. Trenchard

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

A.G. Farr, M.B.E., M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H.,  
D.T.M. & H., D.I.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

A. Swan, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

J.L. Cort, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
L.W. Eckersley, D.P.A. (Lond.), M.A.P.H.I.

Clerks

Miss M.E. Swain (until 30.4.68)  
Miss S.A. Ayling  
Miss P.A. Maitland



# Rural District Council of Petersfield.

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*A. G. Farr, M.B.E.*

M.A., M.B., B.CHIR., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., D.I.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TELEPHONE

PETERSFIELD 2511/2/3.

*Health Department,  
The Old College,  
Petersfield,  
Hants.*

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Petersfield Rural District Council:

Sir,

I have the honour to present my report for 1968. On this occasion, the "directory" section of the report has been enlarged and is bound separately. I hope that this will prove useful.

I am grateful for the help and co-operation received from doctors, nurses and many others working in the "social" field, both officials of central and local government agencies and members of voluntary organisations. I wish to thank also my colleagues in the Council's service and the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support during 1968.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

*A. G. Farr*

Medical Officer of Health  
Petersfield Rural District Council



## PETERSFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

The district forms part of the eastern boundary of Hampshire, its eastern boundary being Surrey in the north and West Sussex in the south. The South Downs traverse the district from east to west, dividing it into northern and southern halves. There are no large rivers, the extreme north of the district draining into the Wey basin to the Thames, the eastern part via the Rother to the Channel and part of the western area via the Meon to Southampton Water. The main London to Portsmouth road and railway traverse the district from north to south, the Midhurst/Winchester road from east to west. These roads cross at Petersfield, the small country town lying just north of the gap in the downs through which the London/Portsmouth road and railway pass. This town and an adjacent area forms the separate urban district of Petersfield.

Much of the district is noted for its beauty and is scheduled as such. Different forms of agriculture are practised throughout the district but, in general, in the south, the farms are smaller in area and there is more horticulture, on the downland there is more arable and stock farming with dairy farming in the valleys. There is some fruit farming and timber growing.

There are few light and no heavy industries in the district but with the proximity of Portsmouth in the south and London and the "outer London belt" in the north, many residents find their employment outside the district. There is considerable pressure for housing development all through the district, but this is strictly controlled. Main development in the south has been in Horndean and Catherington which are close to the rapidly expanding urban district of Havant and Waterloo and in the north it has been around Liss and Liphook for "commuters" who work in London.

	1968/69	1967/68
Area in acres	54,758	54,758
Estimated population	30,280	29,710
Approximate number of inhabited houses	9,136	8,978
Rateable value	£936,348	£909,951
Sum represented by a penny rate	£3,758	£3,584
Uniform general rate	10/2	9/5



## GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

### STAFF

Miss Margaret Swain resigned from the Council's employment at the end of April in order to take up an appointment in the office of the Divisional Surveyor. During the period of over three years in which she worked in the Public Health Department, she maintained a very high standard of competence.

The vacancy was filled by the transfer of Miss Pat Maitland from the Clerk's office.

This was the only staff change in 1968.

### THE WIND OF CHANGE

In the last four years, various aspects of local government and the services it provides have been under review, culminating in the Royal Commission on Local Government which is to report in 1969 and which one assumes will tie together many of the subjects discussed by separate Committees. Comment in this annual report in past years has been confined to local issues; whilst the matters discussed here apply nationally, they have already caused some changes locally and more will follow.

The first two reports to emerge were on the staffing of local government and the efficiency with which local authorities conducted their business. Both found much to criticise in a system set up at the end of the nineteenth century before the motor car had made its impact on our society. Collectively the local authorities have a huge turnover in cash each year and are one of the biggest employers; there are serious deficiencies in staffing in many professional and technical posts and in the main, the rewards offered in local government compare unfavourably with the equivalent in industry or commerce. The training available to staff was also criticised and from this has come the Local Government Training Board. Admittedly, this is still in its early stages but from the viewpoint of one employed by three second-tier and one first-tier authority, no information whatsoever about the activities of this board has come through the individual authorities. It is important for the morale of staff that they should know what is being done in the training sphere and this is particularly the case in the peripheral authorities.

As regards the conduct of business by local authorities, many reforms were advocated. In general, these involved the delegation of more authority to officers working within policy limits laid down by the authority.



(The Wind of Change - continued)

This was considered during 1968 and the Council adopted considerable changes in a procedure which will help to reduce delay to the public and will cut out a number of unproductive actions. These were put into effect early in 1969 and one of the first casualties was a formal monthly report from the Medical Officer of Health. It was also decided to reduce the frequency of Council and Committee meetings.

In July appeared the report of the Seeborn Committee on "Local Authority and Allied Personal Social Services" and the Green Paper on the administrative re-organisation of the National Health Service. The latter is easily dealt with; on November 1st, the Ministry of Health ceased to exist and became a branch of an enlarged Ministry of Health and Social Security and early in 1969, the Minister withdrew the Green Paper.

The Seeborn Committee's report can be fairly criticised on two grounds at least - its prolixity and the fact that many of the statements made are matters of opinion and not of fact and very little effort appears to have been made to establish facts. Admittedly, this is a field in which facts are seldom apparent or obvious; all the more important therefore to establish them, for they may well be at variance with opinions held by even experienced workers. The recommendations of the Committee can be summarised as the creation of a new department of social work in all major authorities, which would include various categories of social worker now employed in the health, education and children's departments. The need to unify the social work undertaken in the homes of people by various government and local authority departments is apparent; it is doubtful if the creation of a new department is the best way of doing this. Even more surprising is the insistence of the Committee that this be done before the publication of the report of the Royal Commission on Local Government expected in 1969. Most people take the view that this body will recommend major changes in the local government pattern and it would certainly seem better to see their proposals before instituting a major change of this sort.

There are various ways in which a major authority can administer its social services; in Hampshire, there are separate children's, education, health and welfare departments, each the responsibility of separate Committees. In a number of authorities, health and welfare are combined. Statutorily, it is not possible to combine the work of the children's department and some suspect that this is largely due to the wish of the Home Office to retain all its responsibilities.

Writing in the "Lancet" of 5th April, 1969, Elliott compares the situation regarding reform of the National Health Service with that in the U.S.A. and makes the point that the National Health Service has a



rigid structure, which leaves no real room for experiment. The provision of medical care in the U.S.A. is in an overall muddle, inside which, however, there are a number of schemes being put into operation by the more lively communities which differ widely. From these will emerge systems which have advantages and can be applied in other situations and from which we can learn. Britain is much smaller than the U.S.A. but is still quite big and diverse enough to support several experiments into ways in which social services can be provided and administered. Indeed, there are signs that it is politically expedient to give way (at least in some fields) to the surge of nationalism and this could fit in with experiments designed to try out new ideas in the provision of health and other social services in the field.

## THE ENVIRONMENT

### Planning

The joint planning body for South Hampshire published the first of a series of studies on environmental problems; this concerned refuse disposal and was a good presentation of an ably conducted investigation. The recommendations made were clear-cut and straightforward and it would be surprising if they are not accepted by all the authorities concerned. Petersfield is in the fortunate position of having facilities for disposal of refuse which are expected to be adequate to the end of this century at least.

Further studies on sewage disposal and water resources are being undertaken and there can be no doubt that the "area" approach to such matters in South Hampshire is more satisfactory than piece-meal action by individual local authorities.

The saga of the Showmen's winter site at Catherington continued in that some of the family returned to the same site at the end of the year. After further negotiations, the farmer sold an area of land to the Showman and it is to be hoped that it will not be necessary for so much time to be spent on this matter in future.

The economic situation prevented anything further being done towards the development of the Council's own caravan site. The Prospect Farm site remained with two families resident at the end of 1968. Considerable efforts had been made to rehouse one family but without success. There was some progress in regard to Bircholt Road and since the adoption of a planning policy for this area of caravans and shacks in 1966, a total of four families have been rehoused. Negotiations regarding the sale of various plots have dragged on.

## Housing

### Units

#### Council Housing

Occupied at 31.12.67	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1201
Completed in 1968..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 <sup>x</sup>
Slum clearance - closed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Occupied at 31.12.68	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1202

<sup>x</sup>East Meon - 2, Steep - 4

#### Private Building

Completed in 1967..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	169
Completed in 1968..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	161

(Bramshott - 37, Buriton - 4, Clanfield - 14, East Meon - 1, Horndean - 59, Langrish - 1, Liss - 34, Rowlands Castle - 10, Steep - 1)

This department was particularly concerned in the case of one of the two remaining tenants at Prospect Farm Caravan Site, Rowlands Castle. We contended that rehousing was the moral responsibility of Havant and Waterloo U.D.C. and they contested this. The Housing Committee eventually agreed to accept this family on the housing list, subject to certain conditions, but towards the end of the year they moved temporarily to live with relatives, pending the birth of a fourth child.

#### Sewage Disposal

No new work was undertaken in 1968 but planning of several schemes was in hand and improvements at Liss (sludge drying beds) received Ministry approval.

#### Refuse

Comment has been made above regarding the tipping capacity available to the Council being adequate for some thirty years to come. During the year, Councillors paid a visit of inspection to the tip and as a result matters were put in hand to provide better amenities for the men working there.

The Public Health Committee gave detailed consideration to the refuse collection service provided in the District and resolved that a weekly



(Refuse - continued)

service should be instituted when relaxation of the "squeeze" on additional expenditure should allow for this. Consideration of an experimental paper sack scheme to evaluate cost and efficiency was deferred.

### Water Supplies

Public supplies through the Wey Valley and Portsmouth Water Companies were satisfactory in both quality and quantity. No problems affecting private supplies arose in 1968.

### Food Hygiene

Regular bacteriological tests are carried out at the only abattoir in the district and these were satisfactory throughout the year. No outbreak of illness associated with food was reported during the year and, whilst minor incidents may have happened unknown to us, it is safe to say there was no major incident.

A waitress at a restaurant in the district who resided in another district was found to have a salmonella infection; the remainder of the catering staff were tested and found free of infection.

A boy, resident in the district, was found on admission to hospital to be excreting another species of salmonella (S. choleraesuis, associated with pigs). None of the contacts were infected and the source of the boy's infection could not be found.

In much of the work in controlling environmental hygiene, we rely on the advice and assistance received from the Portsmouth and Winchester Public Health Laboratories and we place on record our thanks to the respective Directors and their staffs.

Doctor Payne held two conferences at Portsmouth, the first concerned with setting up investigations to try and determine the burden of human pathogens being introduced into abattoirs by ill stock and the second for a general discussion of the problems affecting this area.

## PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Hospitals

Within the district lie King George's Hospital, Liphook (Geriatric), The Grange Maternity Home, Liss and Wenham Holt Convalescent Home. In Petersfield town are the small General Hospital, under the supervision of

(Hospitals - continued)

local doctors, where consultant out-patients are held and "Heathside", a small geriatric hospital. Most of the district looks to Portsmouth for its main hospital services, though in the northern parishes, Winchester, Alton, Haslemere and Guildford are used. The King Edward VII Hospital at Midhurst is also used for chest complaints.

The original "Cheshire Home" at Le Court continues to operate and there is a small private nursing home at Hill Brow.

### Family Doctor Service

No change occurred in 1968.

### Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting

Miss R.E. Mitchell took over as Area Nursing Officer from Miss Dell during the year. The unattached Health Visitor vacancy was not filled until the appointment of Miss Baxter in the autumn. There was no change in the attachment arrangements and no other changes in personnel.

### Child Health Clinics

The following table shows attendances at County Council clinics in 1968:-

Clinic	Number attending born in			Total children	Total attendances
	1968	1967	1963-66		
Clanfield	28	46	25	99	883
East Meon	10	13	32	55	447
Horndean	83	108	109	300	1288
Liphook	35	59	44	138	1109
Liss	54	68	82	204	1306
Petersfield	110	110	177	397	2492
Rowlands Castle	22	23	24	69	341

There was a slight drop in total attendances in all but two clinics. This could reflect the slight reduction in births and also the fact that more family doctors are now organising their own child health clinics.



(Child Health Clinics - continued)

Nevertheless, a considerable volume of work is done at these clinics and this would be impossible without the help given by voluntary workers. We are most grateful for the service they give, which in a number of cases now extends over long periods.

Home Help Service (Petersfield Rural and Urban Districts)

Applications received and investigated	..	..	129
Assisted	.. .. .. .	..	68
Advance bookings	.. .. .. .	..	5
Weekly case load	.. .. .. .	..	88
<u>On Register - 31.12.68</u>	.. ..	31 Home Helps	
		6 Good Neighbours	

Type of case assisted

Aged	.. .. .. .	133
Chronic	.. .. .. .	11
Maternity	.. .. .. .	10
Post Hospital	.. .. .. .	6
Others	.. .. .. .	5
		<hr/>
TOTAL:		165

The table above gives some idea of the scope of this service, the object of which is really to "keep the home going" where difficulties arise. It will be seen that by far the largest group helped are the elderly and, in this field, much devoted work is done which enables a number of people to remain in their homes rather than in an institution. Many of these ladies undertake duties far beyond the domestic work they are supposed to do and there is usually a close bond of affection between them and their "charges". The community owes them gratitude.

Mental Welfare

This service, provided through the County Health Department, is concerned with the care of the mentally ill and handicapped in their homes. The greater part of Petersfield comes under the Fareham Office but Bramshott parish is dealt with by the Aldershot Office.

Welfare and Children's Departments

The Petersfield districts come under the Emsworth and Havant Offices

## (Welfare and Children's Departments - continued)

of these County Departments. The Welfare Department re-organised its areas at the beginning of 1968 and for much of the year, the Petersfield Office was open on three mornings a week. Later, it became possible for the office to open on each week day morning.

Meetings of social workers in various fields continued to be held at two monthly intervals at the Town Hall, Petersfield, in order to co-ordinate action in cases where more than one worker is concerned.

### Health Education

With the assistance of the County Health Education section, an exhibition was mounted at Petersfield Town Hall in March, 1968 on "Cancer Prevention". All organisations in the area were circularised with the request that they would send delegates to the exhibition, which demonstrated not only the ways in which cancer can be prevented but also the various talks on this subject available to any organisation wishing to devote a meeting to this subject. The attendance was small and the follow-up in terms of talks requested has not been great.

### Voluntary Services

Despite our so-called "Welfare State" (about which criticism has been increasing), by far the greater part of the help given to those who may need it comes from members of the family, from neighbours or others in the community. Most of this is individual and spontaneous and known only to the giver and the recipient. Where the person in need is integrated into the community, help is almost invariably forthcoming. But in every community, there are some who prefer to remain withdrawn and aloof and in such cases the need for help may not be realised, or offers to assist may be rejected. These are the cases in which there may be great need and their identification remains a problem. In this field, in particular, the larger voluntary organisations play an important part, as they do in many other fields of service. The "Meals on Wheels" Service is administered and operated by the W.R.V.S. on behalf of the County and District Councils and delivers a meal on two days each week to the homes of people who are housebound.



(Voluntary Services - continued)

Number of meals served in each Parish - 1968/69

Parish	Estimated Population	Number of Meals Served 1968/69
Bramshott	7,521	1,542
Greatham	575	60
Horndean/Clanfield	9,989	2,168
Liss	4,740	1,156
Rowlands Castle	2,038	108
Steep/Froxfield	1,797	1,177

As these figures show, this represents a considerable service and often the regular visit to the home by the "meals ladies" is appreciated as much as the meal they bring. Our thanks are due to them for the hard work they put into the preparation, collection and delivery and we are also grateful to the various centres where the meals are cooked, particularly to the E.S.D. Liphook and Bedales School.

The British Red Cross Society is active in many branches of welfare; worthy of special mention are the chiropody clinics they arrange for the elderly and the distribution of home nursing equipment which they do on behalf of the County Council.

# VITAL STATISTICS

To be valid, statistics must be derived from a sufficient number of observations. Some of the statistics and the rates derived from them which follow are not significant for this reason:

YEAR		1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Total estimated population		26080	27470	28700	29710	30280
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate)	Male	236	227	242	253	233
	Female	222	229	220	227	195
	TOTAL	458	456	462	480	428
LIVE BIRTHS (Illegitimate)	Male	14	13	9	17	19
	Female	14	11	22	13	25
	TOTAL	28	24	31	30	44
TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS		486	480	493	510	472
BIRTH RATES	CRUDE RATE	17.2	17.4	17.2	17.2	15.6
Live Births/1000	CORRECTED RATE	19.0	17.4	17.2	17.0	15.4
population	ENGLAND & WALES	18.4	18.1	17.7	17.2	16.9
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS PER CENT TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS		5.8%	5%	6.3%	5.9%	9.3%
STILL BIRTHS	Legitimate	1	3	10	2	5
	Illegitimate	1	1	1	-	1
	TOTAL	2	4	11	2	6
STILL BIRTH RATE PER 1000 BIRTHS (live and still)		4.1	8.2	21.8	3.9	12.5
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS		488	484	504	512	478

The total births was the smallest for five years and the birth rate showed a definite decline, the corrected rate being significantly below the national rate. The number of illegitimate births showed a sharp increase to 44 live births; or 9.3% of all live births. Of eleven children born in 1968, one was illegitimate.



## Infant Deaths

### Infant Mortality

Deaths of children under one year of age

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Legitimate	8	7	6	4	6
Illegitimate	-	1	2	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>

<u>Rates</u>	1965	1966	1967	1968
Infant mortality rate (deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births)	16.6	16.2	7.8	13.0
England and Wales	19.0	19.0	18.3	18.0

### Neo Natal Mortality

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Legitimate	10	3	5	4	4
Illegitimate	-	-	1	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

### Rates

Petersfield  
R.D.

England  
& Wales

	1968	1967	1968	1967
Neo natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	8.4	7.8	12.3	12.5
EARLY neo natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	2.1	5.8	10.5	10.8
PERINATAL mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live and stillbirths)	17.0	11.5	25.0	25.4

(Infant Deaths - continued)

The numbers from which the rates are calculated are too small for valid comparisons to be made but it will be noted that in each case they are below the national rate. There were no maternal deaths.

Deaths

Deaths - Petersfield Rural District - 1968

YEAR		1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Total estimated population		26,080	27,470	28,700	29,710	30,280
DEATHS	Males	136	149	156	124	179
	Females	118	133	132	138	154
	TOTAL	254	282	288	262	333
CRUDE DEATH RATE (Petersfield R.D.)		9.7	10.3	10.0	8.8	11.0
CORRECTED DEATH RATE PER 1000 POPULATION (Petersfield R.D.)		9.4	10.3	10.1	7.6	9.8
DEATH RATE (England and Wales)		11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9

There was a substantial increase in the number of deaths in 1968, with a corresponding increase in the death rate. The corrected death rate for the district remains below the national rate.

Causes of Death

During 1968, a new classification of causes of death was introduced by the General Register Office in the records which they keep by local authority area. The number of headings is almost doubled from the previous list, thus allowing a more detailed classification of causes of death.



(Deaths - continued)

Deaths - Petersfield Rural District - 1968

CAUSE	Male	Female	TOTAL
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	1	2
Meningococcal infection	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	4	1	5
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	12	4	16
Malignant neoplasm - breast	1	3	4
Malignant neoplasm - uterus	-	2	2
Leukaemia	1	2	3
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	15	13	28
Diabetes mellitus	-	1	1
Anaemias	-	2	2
Meningitis	2	1	3
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	2	2	4
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	1	1
Hypertensive disease	4	3	7
Ischaemic heart disease	58	40	98
Other forms of heart disease	6	8	14
Cerebrovascular disease	27	34	61
Other diseases of circulatory system	8	6	14
Influenza	-	2	2
Pneumonia	9	10	19
Bronchitis and emphysema	12	4	16
Asthma	1	2	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	2	2
Peptic ulcer	2	1	3
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	-	1
Other diseases of digestive system	-	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	-	3
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	2	-	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	2	2
Congenital anomalies	1	-	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	2	-	2
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	-	4	4
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-	1
TOTALS	179	154	333

(Deaths - continued)

Age at Death - Petersfield Rural District - 1968

AGE GROUP	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Over 75 years	83	46%	84	54%	167	50%
Over 65 years	137	76%	122	79%	259	77%

The table above shows that half of all deaths were in people aged 75 or over. The age distribution of deaths shows no significant change from that of recent years.

Main Causes of Death - Petersfield Rural District - 1968

Disease	Male		Female		Total		%age of all deaths	
	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967
Cancer of the stomach	4	2	1	-	5	2		
lung	12	9	4	4	16	13		
breast	1	-	3	1	4	1		
uterus	-	-	2	5	2	5		
Other forms of cancer	15	18	13	14	28	32		
TOTAL deaths from cancer	32	29	23	24	55	53	16%	20%
"Stroke"	27	12	34	30	61	42	18%	16%
Coronary heart disease	58	33	40	27	98	60	29%	23%

63% of all deaths came in the three groups tabulated above, which is in line with previous experience both locally and nationally. There were differences within these groups but not large enough to be significant, although there was a notable increase in deaths from coronary heart disease which amounted to nearly one third of all deaths.



## INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

### Notifications, 1968

Disease	Number of cases
Dysentery (bacillary)	7
Food poisoning	1
Infective Jaundice	22
Influenzal Pneumonia	1
Measles	33
Tuberculosis	1
Scarlet Fever	9
Whooping Cough	12

There were some major changes in notifiable disease legislation in 1968. As from 14th June, 1968, infectious hepatitis (jaundice) was made notifiable for the whole country. Previously, it had been notifiable only in certain areas. New regulations were introduced, effective from 1st October, which placed the responsibility for notification only on the medical practitioner and doubled the fee payable to 5s.0d. They deleted the diseases of pneumonia, membranous croup, acute rheumatism, erysipelas and puerperal pyrexia and added leptospirosis, tetanus and yellow fever to the list of notifiable diseases.

#### Infective Jaundice

Although it was known this condition was prevalent, the number of cases notified in England and Wales has been surprisingly great - about 23,000 cases in 12 months. The disease presents many problems in control. Its cause is not known but thought to be a virus. The method of transmission is not known but it is thought may be by droplet in the initial stages and possibly excremental as well. The incubation period is given as up to sixty days by one authority. When to this is added the knowledge that in a household or institution exposed to this disease, three quarters of the people exposed will show biochemical disturbances of liver function typical of this disease but only one quarter will be clinically ill, it will be appreciated that attempted control presents many problems.

Eighteen of the twenty-two cases reported in 1968 were connected

(Infective Jaundice - continued)

with an outbreak in one village, which commenced with two cases aged seven and seventeen in one family in August. The origin of this infection is uncertain but during this same month three cases of this disease are known to have occurred in the staff of a neighbouring naval establishment. Six further cases occurred in September, five in October and five in November. One further case is known in a child attending a residential school at Ipswich who became ill in January, 1969. In retrospect, the family doctor recalls the sister of this case having a mild illness whilst he was on holiday at home which could have infectious hepatitis.

The incubation period throughout this outbreak remained between 21 and 25 days. More than half the patients were attending school. Close liaison was maintained with the general practitioner concerned and in October, all general practitioners in the area were notified of the situation. Control measures included the exclusion of cases and family contacts from school and from work if handling food. Whether these measures had any effect is doubtful but there was no evidence of spread in secondary schools or in the nearest town. It was also decided to cancel clinics arranged for measles immunisation and reinforcing doses of diphtheria, tetanus and polio vaccines at the local school.

Bacillary Dysentery and enteritis

A number of family outbreaks of diarrhoea and vomiting were investigated. Four cases excreting *S. sonnei* were found in one family; the initial case in this outbreak was an infant of four months, diagnosed in hospital. The source of the infection was not discovered.

Of the remaining cases, two were in one family, in which four other people had had an enteritis earlier but who were now negative. They attributed the infection to a child who had been staying in the home. A single remaining case was in a small child whose mother (a teacher) took her to the school where she taught at (not in this district) and who attributed the infection to the school.

Two other outbreaks were investigated; one in a family living in unhygienic conditions. No causative organism was found here but the visits to the home by the inspector had at least a temporary effect in cleanliness!

Several families were investigated in another outbreak in a village at the request of a local doctor who had seen a number of cases. All specimens submitted proved negative.



## Food Poisoning

One case only was notified in 1968; this was an infection with S. choleraesuis discovered in a youth in hospital. The family contacts proved negative. This infection is commonly found in pigs but no causal connection could be traced. A food handler working in this district but residing in a neighbouring district was found to be excreting S. enteritidis. All the staff in this establishment were tested, with negative results.

## Tuberculosis

### Tuberculosis - 1968

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
	Male	Female	TOTAL	Male	Female	TOTAL
<u>Additions 1968</u>						
New cases	2	-	2	-	2	2
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Deletions 1968</u>						
Cured	-	1	1	-	-	-
Deaths	1	-	1	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Register as at 31.12.68	36	30	66	1	2	3

Of the two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis registered in 1968, in one patient, a man of 61, the disease was diagnosed only post-mortem. The other, also aged 61, was a man understood to have been under treatment some years previously in Scotland.

## Immunisation

Immunisation against tuberculosis is offered to school children usually at 14 - 15 years old. This procedure was carried out at Churcher's College and Petersfield County Secondary School in 1968. The figures given below do not take account of the domicile:

Heaf tested .....	218
Positive reactors .....	19
Immunised .....	192
Absent .....	26

(Immunisation against Tuberculosis - continued)

The proportion of positive reactors (that is, children showing immunity to tuberculosis) was just under 9%.

IMMUNISATION

Records

Owing to difficulties experienced in other areas of the County, the transfer of immunisation records to the computer did not take place in 1968.

Measles

It was decided to offer immunisation against measles on a national scale in 1968. Owing to delay in sanctioning the manufacture of sufficient vaccine, when the scheme was introduced in the late spring with considerable publicity, the supply of vaccine was quite inadequate for the demand and the initial interest aroused was partly wasted. Special school "measles" clinics were arranged in the summer term for the under sevens and in the autumn term for older children. Owing to the inability of the county authorities to staff the latter clinics, few were in fact held.

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio

School "booster" clinics were held in the autumn term with the assistance of a local doctor. One school clinic was cancelled because of an outbreak of infective hepatitis in the village.

School Immunisation Clinics, 1968

Number of schools circulated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Number of forms returned	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	633
Number of children fully protected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	101 (16%)
Number not previously immunised:								
Polio .....							46	( 7%)
Diphtheria/Tetanus ....							24	( 4%)
Number refusing immunisation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11 ( 2%)
Number attending family doctor	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	151 (24%)
Number immunised at school clinic (children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	289 (45%)
Polio .....							160	
Diphtheria/Tetanus ....							279	



## INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES OF IMMUNISATION

By international agreement, travellers arriving from countries declared to be infected may be required to produce a valid international certificate (on the prescribed form) against any of the following diseases:

### Smallpox

Certificate valid for three years, effective eight days after successful primary vaccination, immediately upon re-vaccination.

### Cholera

Certificate valid for six months; effective from the date of second injection for primary immunisation. Where re-inforcing dose given within period of efficacy of previous immunisation, one dose only required.

Both vaccines can be given by general practitioners, but advance arrangements should be made so that vaccine can be ordered.

Both of these certificates require the doctor's signature to be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health, to whom they should be sent for this purpose.

### Yellow Fever

Available only at certain specified centres, of which Southampton and London are the nearest. Certificate valid for ten years.

Persons travelling abroad are advised to have in their possession valid international certificates of Smallpox immunisation. Cholera and Yellow Fever immunisation is needed only for travel to certain tropical countries, and advice should be sought from the carrier.

Immunisation against Typhoid Fever is not obligatory; it is strongly advised, however, if travelling to certain European and other countries where the incidence of typhoid and paratyphoid fevers is much greater than in Britain.

Finally, leave plenty of time to get all these procedures carried out - at least one month.





# Rural District Council of Petersfield.

*A. Swan* A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

TELEPHONE

PETERSFIELD 2511/2/3.

*Public Health Department,  
The Old College,  
Petersfield,  
Hants.*

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Petersfield Rural District Council:

Sir,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1968 on the sanitary circumstances of the area and the duties for which I am responsible.

Formal action in respect of unfit houses is tending to slow down. This is largely because demolition action must be linked realistically with ability to rehouse displaced persons and accommodation is not always available because of delays in building programmes, with which you are only too familiar.

On the other hand, many properties listed for formal action have, for varying reasons, been voluntarily modernised and improved. These are principally the older ones with lots of character and it is the late Victorian and Edwardian houses which tend to present a problem. In some cases, even houses built just after World War I are requiring attention.

Some years ago, the expressions "dependent" and "self-contained" were coined in respect of residential caravans, according to whether services and amenities were available outside or inside the van. The rate of change from "dependent" to "self-contained" is surprisingly high.

The standards of shop premises, working surfaces and equipment continued to improve. It is unfortunate that the same type of human errors continue. The administration of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 has created no difficulty so far largely because of the assistance provided by successive student inspectors attached to this office. No further students are anticipated until 1972.

The one remaining slaughterhouse in the district remains quite time

demanding, as far as supervision and meat inspection is concerned but presented no particular problems.

Very heavy rat infestations were the cause of considerable concern last winter but I understand this experience was common to much of the country. At times there was a little delay in dealing with complaints but generally speaking, the service coped satisfactorily.

I am grateful to the Public Health Committee for their support and to my colleagues for their ready help throughout the year.

*Hwan.*

Chief Public Health Inspector



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water

Supplies from all sources proved adequate during the year and there was no shortage of mains water.

The Water Undertakers of the Rural District are:

- (a) Portsmouth Water Company, West Street, Havant

This Company supplies the parishes of Clanfield, Horndean and Rowlands Castle.

- (b) Wey Valley Water Company, 3 Downing Street, Farnham

This Company now supplies the remaining parishes.

Out of 9,189 dwellings, the following are the only ones which do not have a Company's main supply tap indoors:

External standpipes (mains) (98 of these are caravans)	..	..	105
Rainwater	..	..	11
Ram	..	..	2
Spring (these are all piped from the same estate supply)	..	..	7
Well (24 of these are private chlorinated piped supplies)	..	..	37

The following table shows the domestic water supplies in the various parishes. Remoteness accounts largely for the comparatively few houses not yet served by a main.



# DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY

Parish	Number of Dwellings on 31.12.68	Number in Column (a) served by				Population served by mains			Estimated Parish Population
						Total (g)	(h)		
		MAINS							
		Direct to house (b)	Stand-pipes (c)	Wells, Springs etc. (d)	Direct to house (e)			Stand-pipes (f)	
BRAMSHOTT	1,845	1,813	18	14	7,422	56	7,478	7,521	
BURITON	293	267	7	19	949	22	971	930	
CLANFIELD	674	666	3	5	2,126	9	2,135	2,151	
COLEMORE and PRIORSDEAN	63	57	6	-	158	18	176	176	
EAST NEON	348	342	-	6	1,706	-	1,706	1,725	
FROXFIELD	281	275	5	1	895	15	910	913	
GREATHAM	169	147	22	-	507	68	575	575	
HAWKLEY	150	150	-	-	476	-	476	476	
HORNDEN	2,863	2,834	26	3	7,649	80	7,729	7,838	
LANGRISH	94	94	-	-	313	-	313	313	
LISS	1,373	1,365	10	-	4,709	31	4,740	4,740	
ROWLANDS CASTLE	701	699	2	-	2,032	6	2,038	2,038	
STEEP	333	318	6	9	837	19	856	834	
TOTALS:	9,189	9,027	105	57	29,779	324	30,103	30,230	

Figures in Column (g) are obtained by multiplying figures in Column (d) by an average population per house and deducting the result from Column (h). Figures in Column (f) are obtained by multiplying figures in Column (c) by the same figure.

N.B. This table includes figures for caravans and moveable dwellings.

## Rivers and Streams

The main rivers and streams are as follows:-

- (1) The River Wey which passes through Bramshott parish and collects the discharge of water from Waggoners Wells.
- (2) The River Rother which passes through the parish of Hawkley, forms part of the boundary between Greatham and Hawkley and then passes through the parish of Liss.
- (3) The River Meon which flows through the parish of East Meon and passes into Droxford Rural District at West Meon.

The district resolves itself into three separate drainage areas:-

- (a) Sussex River Authority area
- (b) Thames above Teddington area
- (c) Hampshire River Authority area

## Rainfall

Captain A.F. Coryton, the Petersfield Urban District Council, the Chief Engineer of the West Sussex River Board, the Engineer of the Portsmouth Water Company and the Head Teacher of Clanfield County Primary School have all been good enough to let me have the rainfall figures for 1968. These are set out in inches in the following table.

The average rainfall figure for Greatham over the last ten years was 35.8 inches.



RAINFALL, 1968

1968	Greatham	Sheet	Petersfield	Ditcham Park	Catherington	Idsworth	Leydene	Clanfield
January	2.27	2.63	2.49	3.13	2.98	2.96	3.18	4.78
February	1.75	1.81	1.81	2.06	1.96	1.75	1.76	1.82
March	0.84	1.45	1.33	1.45	1.15	0.91	1.18	0.85
April	2.94	3.03	2.93	3.35	3.62	3.33	3.54	2.30
May	3.29	4.01	3.72	4.05	4.28	3.98	3.46	1.10
June	3.67	4.48	4.27	5.65	4.45	4.38	5.94	2.30
July	3.55	2.94	2.78	3.33	2.68	3.36	2.77	2.85
August	2.53	2.55	2.06	2.64	2.40	1.70	2.83	2.43
September	7.39	8.53	8.54	9.31	8.12	7.78	9.75	6.10
October	4.74	5.02	4.64	5.37	4.89	4.59	5.78	3.56
November	1.95	1.85	1.81	2.00	1.63	1.55	1.81	1.22
December	5.21	5.53	5.48	5.30	4.28	4.08	5.11	4.98
TOTALS:	40.13	43.83	41.86	47.64	42.44	40.37	47.11	34.29

### Pail Closet Emptying

Pail closet contents are emptied on behalf of the Council by the Cleansing Service (Southern Counties) Ltd. on Mondays and Thursdays in the following localities:

Bramshott	-	59	(105)
Buriton	-	5	( 62)
Clanfield	-	7	( 16)
East Meon	-	1	( 27)
Froxfield	-	6	( 10)
Greatham	-	2	( 40)
Hawkley	-	10	( 29)
Langrish	-	2	( 12)
Liss	-	16	( 10)

(N.B. Comparable figures for 1962 are shown in brackets)

Each year sees a reduction in the number of houses served and I am of the opinion that the Council should give fresh consideration to the future of this service.

### Public Cleansing

A roadside collection of house refuse is carried out in localities defined on maps approved by the Council. The collection days are as follows:

BRAMSHOTT	Weekly	Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
BURITON	Fortnightly	Friday
CLANFIELD	Weekly	Wednesday
COLEMORE and PRIORSDEAN	Fortnightly	Thursday
EAST MEON	Fortnightly	Thursday
FROXFIELD	Fortnightly	Thursday
GREATHAM	Fortnightly	Friday

(cont.)



## Public Cleansing - continued

HAWKLEY	Fortnightly	Friday
HORNDEN	Weekly	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
LANGRISH	Fortnightly	Thursday
LISS	Weekly	Thursday and Friday
ROWLANDS CASTLE	Weekly	Monday and Thursday
STEEP	Fortnightly	Friday

The Council has agreed to a weekly kerbside collection throughout the district as soon as the economic situation permits. This will be welcomed in areas not yet benefitting in this way and fewer complaints of unauthorised accumulations are likely to be received. The effect the extended service will have on the dumping of bulk refuse remains to be seen.

Public sanitary conveniences at Liphook came into use at the end of the year and it is hoped that there will be no more fouling of laybys on the trunk road. Fresh thought is being given to signposting.

Very few complaints have been received in the south of the district since conveniences were provided there in 1966 and I feel that similar accommodation in the Weston area of the A.3 is the only answer to the problem just south of Petersfield.

Cesspools serving houses are emptied upon request, a charge being made where a sewer is available or when the number of emptyings per house exceeds four per year.

Building Regulations require that new cesspools shall be of a capacity, measured below the level of the inlet, of not less than 4,000 gallons. The number of these larger cesspools is increasing in the same way that the number of small, inadequate ones is decreasing. In spite, therefore, of further main drainage provision, it seems likely that the cesspool emptying service will not be reduced for some years to come.

### Offices and Shops

Generally speaking, duties under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises

## Offices and Shops - continued

Act, 1963 (other than provisions relating to fire) are the responsibility of the District Council and the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950 relating to hours of closing, conditions of employment and Sunday trading continue to be administered by the County Council.

With the co-operation of the Engineer and Surveyor, we are consulted about all new offices and shops and extensions to ensure compliance with public health requirements.

Only one accident was reported during the year.

No formal action was taken during the year.

## Caravan Sites

Licences have been authorised in respect of the following commercial sites:

Occupier	Address of Site	Telephone	Caravans
<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>			
Mrs. E.L. Alsford	The Bird-in-Hand, Lovedean, Horndean	Horndean 2355	3
Commander R. Kemp	133 London Road, Horndean	Horndean 2592	21
Mr. F.B. Beach	St. Christophers Caravan Site, 249 London Road, Horndean	Horndean 2210	12
Mr. J.S. Jackson, Lodge Hill, Holt, Wimborne	The Oaks, Liphook Road, Greatham	-	17
<u>HOLIDAY</u>			
Mr. P.E. Holloway	White Horse Inn, Priorsdean	-	6



## Caravan Sites - continued

Licences have also been issued in respect of individual caravans. These are valid for periods to coincide with planning permissions.

Licensed sites are relatively easy to supervise and site operators and caravan dwellers are much more willing to comply with reasonable standards than they were when the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act first came into force in 1960.

Unlicensed sites cause a perpetual headache. Some of them are exempted from licence requirements by the First Schedule of the Act; but, in many cases where exemption is claimed on false information, we are unable to proceed in many cases because our evidence is insufficient to secure a conviction.

The Act also provides for certification of sites by such organisations as "The Caravan Club" and these are exempt from planning or licensing control, subject to a code agreed with the Minister.

The Council still has no caravan site of its own. Therefore, caravans with short term planning permissions had to be permitted to remain and there was a tendency for "back-yard" caravans to appear.

The quality and built-in amenities of caravans vary in the same way as permanent dwellings differ but standards have improved markedly over the last few years and it is very noticeable how many caravans are changing over to the "self-contained" variety with their own amenities within the van.

In July, 1968, a new Caravan Sites Act was passed. Parts I and II which came into force shortly afterwards gave vastly increased protection to the occupiers of caravans and also dealt quite clearly with the thorny problem of twin unit caravans. Part II of the Act dealing with the provision of sites by local authorities for the use of gipsies is not yet in force.

On 1st June, 1967, the Council took over the tenancy of a small site of five caravans at Prospect Farm, Rowlands Castle which had previously been run as a commercial site for twelve caravans and was in the process of being run down. The intention was to continue the process of running down and to close the site by the time the planning permission expired on 31st August, 1968. This was not possible and a further permission was obtained which will expire on the 31st August, 1969.

## Moveable Dwellings

For some years, there has been a tendency for "hut" dwellings to be

## Moveable Dwellings - continued

replaced by more permanent building and this trend continues on land where planning permission is forthcoming. In some cases, however, permission to redevelop is refused and there is an urgency on the part of the owners to do any work necessary to retain the dwellings on what is otherwise valueless ground. Frequently, such buildings do not easily lend themselves to modernisation and improvement and the end result is something short of modern housing standards.

## Schools

Routine and special visits were paid to independent schools in the area and visits were made to County controlled schools in connection with specific enquiries.

## Insect Infestation

Routine mosquito control was carried out during the "invasion" seasons. Pools and ditches which have an unbroken water surface for long periods under average weather conditions are fairly easy to treat but uneven marshy ground and many small pools which persist only because of unusual circumstances sometimes present a difficult problem and result in a nuisance to nearby residents.

One of the major suppliers of fumigants and disinfectants provides a free identification and advisory service in connection with insect pests and this proved most valuable when investigating complaints.

Houses suspected of being verminous are fumigated. Particular attention is paid to cases where occupants are to be moved to Council accommodation.

The department assisted in the following cases where infestations were a threat to householders:-

Wasps	-	38
Flies	-	8
Beetles	-	4
Ants	-	4
Bees	-	23
Cockroaches	-	29



# INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

	Totals
Accumulations and Refuse .. .. .	89
Bakehouses .. .. .	12
Cafes .. .. .	24
Caravans .. .. .	361
Council Site, Prospect Farm .. .. .	114
Clean Air Act, 1956 .. .. .	7
Drainage .. .. .	279
Factories .. .. .	20
Food Premises .. .. .	89
Food Vans .. .. .	11
Houses (Public Health and Housing Acts) .. .. .	862
Housing Applications .. .. .	18
Ice Cream .. .. .	6
Infectious Disease .. .. .	109
Insect Infestation .. .. .	51
Licensed Premises .. .. .	14
Meat Inspection .. .. .	368
Meat Shops .. .. .	15
Milk and Dairies .. .. .	10
Miscellaneous .. .. .	192
Mosquito Control .. .. .	14
Moveable Dwellings .. .. .	93
National Assistance Act .. .. .	35
Noise Abatement .. .. .	44
Nuisances .. .. .	211
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 .. .. .	175
Old Metal Dealers .. .. .	3
Pet Animal Shops and Animal Boarding Establishments .. .. .	24
Rodent Control .. .. .	182
Sampling .. .. .	50
Schools .. .. .	19
Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards .. .. .	66
Unsound Food .. .. .	19
Verminous or Dirty Premises .. .. .	8
Water Supply .. .. .	54
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>3,648</b>

## Samples submitted for laboratory examination

Water - 28  
Slaughterhouse - 50  
waste

## HOUSING

### Summary of work carried out under Public Health and Housing Acts

(A) HOUSES DEMOLISHED			
	Number	Displaced	
		Persons	Families
<u>In Clearance Areas</u> .. .. .	-	-	-
<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>			
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1) of the Housing Act, 1957	14	19	6

(B) UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED OR UNDERTAKINGS ACCEPTED			
	Number	Displaced	
		Persons	Families
Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) of the Housing Act, 1957	10	37	15
Under Sections 17(3) and 26 of the Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Housing Act, 1961 - Section 26	-	-	-

(C) UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED		
	By Owner	By L. A.
After informal action by Local Authority	45	-
After formal notice under:		
(a) Public Health Acts .. .. .	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 .. .. .	2	-
Under Section 24 of the Housing Act, 1957	-	-



Summary of work carried out under Public Health and Housing Acts - continued

(D) UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

NIL

(E) PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

NIL

Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. . 3
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
  - (1) By owners .. .. . 2
  - (2) By Local Authority in default of owners .. . NIL

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. . 1
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices
  - (1) By owners .. .. . NIL
  - (2) By Local Authority .. .. . NIL

(c) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957, and Section 26 of the Housing Act, 1961:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders and Closing Orders were made .. 10
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders and otherwise .. . 14
- (iii) Number of dwelling houses closed in pursuance of an Undertaking given by the owner under Section 16 .. 2

Action under Statutory Powers during the year (c) - continued

(iv) Number of dwelling houses closed under Section 26  
previously included in demolition orders under  
Sections 16 and 17 .. .. . NIL

(d) Overcrowding: -

Statutory notices served during the year regarding  
overcrowding .. .. . NIL

Housing Conditions

The Council's policy over the last 25 years of dealing with houses on the basis of the standards of fitness in the Housing Acts (rather than the patching process of the Public Health Acts) has borne fruit and the older houses in villages of the district have been modernised and are generally of good quality and appearance.

The houses which now give food for thought are those built 70/100 years ago which, while they may meet most of the required standards of fitness, are, by reason of bad design and layout and/or by shortage of amenities, classed as sub-standard accommodation.

New legislation is aimed at stimulating the improvement of such houses individually and by way of improvement areas in which efforts will be made to improve the environment as well the habitations. There will be a new system governing the rents of privately rented houses which have been brought up to a satisfactory standard and this will involve certification as to state of repair and amenities.

The following grants were available in 1968:-

(1) Discretionary Grant

Subject to certain conditions, half the estimated cost of improvements can be paid at the discretion of the local Council, subject to a maximum of £400. These grants were available also for the conversion of houses into flats. The policy, where there are existing amenities, is not to give discretionary grants for the elimination of structural defects only.

(2) Standard Grant

In some circumstances, house owners and certain leaseholders could obtain, as a right, half the cost, up to a maximum grant of £350 of



(2) Standard Grant - continued

providing five basic amenities:-

- (a) Bath or shower in bathroom (or elsewhere at the discretion of the Council) .. .. . £25

(Or, if structural work, i.e. building a new structure or conversion of outbuilding, is necessarily involved, such higher amount as the Local Authority shall fix as being in their opinion one half of the reasonable cost of the works attributable to providing a fixed bath or shower).

- (b) Wash-hand basin .. .. . £5

- (c) Hot and cold water supply at a fixed bath or shower .. £35  
Hot and cold water supply at a wash-hand basin .. £15  
Hot and cold water supply at a sink .. .. £25

- (d) Water Closet .. .. . £40

(This must be internal unless not reasonably practicable, in which case it must be reasonably accessible, or, if the works involve the installation of a septic tank such higher amount as the Local Authority shall fix as being in their opinion one half of the reasonable cost of the works attributable to providing a W.C.)

- (e) Facilities for storing food .. .. . £10

Also piped water supply into the dwelling  
for the first time .. .. .

One half of the cost to  
be reasonably incurred in  
the opinion of the Local  
Authority.

In new legislation, the intention is to raise the normal maximum level of discretionary grant from £400 to £1,000 with a similar proportional increase for the conversion of multistoried houses into flats. It is also proposed for the first time that it should in future be made possible to include in grant aided improvement some items of structural repair or replacements.

The ceiling for standard grants is also to be raised and Local Authorities will have power to waive some of the existing compulsory conditions.

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## Food Hygiene

(a) Details of premises subject to Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 - grouped in categories of trade carried on: -

Premises	Sub-Groups	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
<u>SHOPS:</u>	Grocery and General Provisions	62	62	45	45
	Butchers	12	12	12	12
	Bakers	8	8	8	8
	Fishmongers	3	3	3	3
	Greengrocers	6	6	6	6
<u>CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS:</u>	Hotels	6	6	6	6
	Public Houses	38	38	38	38
	Cafes	10	10	10	10
	Licensed Clubs	9	9	9	9
	Other Clubs & Village Institutes	12			
	Fish and Chip Shops	1	1	1	1
<u>CANTEENS:</u>	Hospitals and Nursing Homes	5	5	5	5
	Works Canteens	4	4	4	4
	Schools (Private)	5	5	5	5
	Schools (L.A.)	17	17	17	17

Column (i) - the number of premises

Column (ii) - The number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16 relating to wash-hand basins

Column (iii) - the number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies relating to facilities for washing food and equipment

Column (iv) - the number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19

## (b) General

There are a few comments on life about which there is no contention. One of these is that "a chain is as strong as its weakest link" and this expression can, in my opinion, be most aptly applied to sections of the food trade.

So often, care in manufacture and marketing, associated with



## Food Hygiene - continued

supervisory controls, results in a wholesome commodity reaching the retail outlet but, at this point, the general awareness of food handling hygiene often seems to decline as far as rotation of stock, temperature controls and general food handling are concerned. This may well be due to frequent staff changes and to insufficient guidance on the safe handling of these perishable, frequently vulnerable and potentially dangerous commodities.

Any propaganda or advice about food handling has to be aimed at a constantly changing target and it is little wonder that the same basic faults are perpetuated. In my opinion, this will be so until training is arranged for people entering the food trade.

## Milk Supply

There are fourteen distributors of milk registered by this Council under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

Dealers' licences to sell pre-packed milk are issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963 (Pasteurised, Sterilised, Untreated) and the Milk (Special Designation) (Amendment) Regulations, 1965 (Ultra Heat Treated). These licences are issued under powers delegated to the Rural District Council by and on behalf of the Hampshire County Council.

Dealers' licences to sell pre-packed milk .. .. .	17
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Pasteurised" .. ..	14
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Sterilised" .. ..	9
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Untreated" .. ..	-
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Ultra Heat Treated" ..	4

These licences remain in force until 31st December, 1970.

## Meat and Other Foods

Meat shops in the area were well maintained and, in general, meat was of good quality and well handled.

As from 1st April, 1961, only one slaughterhouse was retained in this district. This followed the introduction of new Regulations in connection with construction and equipment to secure humane slaughter and hygienic conditions.

## Meat and Other Foods - continued

Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, provides for the registration of all premises used for: -

- (a) The sale, or manufacture for the purposes of sale, of ice cream, or the storage of ice cream intended for sale, or
- (b) The preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale.

There are 89 premises in this district currently registered and selling ice cream and 19 premises are registered for the preservation of food.

### Meat Inspection

The following table shows animals killed and inspected with carcasses, part carcasses and organs condemned: -

Messrs. W.T. Pescott and Sons, Horndean

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .. .. .	238	156	26	1,327	577
Number inspected .. .. .	238	156	26	1,327	577
<u>All diseases except T.B.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	5	2
Weights .. .. .	-	-	-	319 lb.	230 lb.
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	86	45	1	66	76
Weights .. .. .	1,017 lb.	645 lb.	3 lb.	145 lb.	299 lb.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	35.83%	28.85%	3.85%	4.97%	13.17%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Weights .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	13
Weights .. .. .	-	-	-	-	114 lb.



Details of other condemned food

	lb.
Fresh meat	24
Cooked meat and meat products	81
Frozen meat	47
Frozen fish and fish products	120
Frozen poultry	6
Frozen vegetables	77
Frozen fruit	4
Ice Cream	31
Other frozen foods	17
TOTAL:	407

Poultry

There are three premises in the district at which substantial quantities of poultry are slaughtered for the food market:-

- (1) The birds dealt with are not primarily table poultry. They are egg producing birds which have gone "off lay" and whole hen houses are cleared at a time. They may be battery hens, deep litter hens or hens kept on wire netting. The birds are killed with an electric stunning knife immediately upon being taken from the crates. They are plucked, stubbed, cooled and refrigerated and delivered daily to a poultry processing establishment at Chichester where supervision is taken over by Chichester Rural District Council. Throughput - Approximately 2,000 birds weekly.
- (2) This is a poultry rearing establishment dealing with approximately 2,000 birds a week, of which 200 are slaughtered, plucked and refrigerated for Kosher trade in Southampton where they are eviscerated and a few are sold locally. About 500 birds a week are despatched live for Kosher killing in Bournemouth; a further 300 birds are slaughtered, plucked, dressed and despatched to shops in Brighton and Portsmouth. Most of the production is of poussins and spit chickens, although the proprietor also handles a few ducks and breeding stock hens. Of those eviscerated on the premises, approximately 1% were rejected as unfit for human consumption.

## Poultry - continued

- (3) The birds dealt with are 8 to 10 week old capons weighing 4 - 7 lb. The proprietor slaughters about 150 each week as well as 20 to 25 "off lay" battery hens. They are all electrically stunned and bled on the premises where they are also machine plucked, hand stubbed and cooled before being delivered "off the hook" to butchers within a ten mile radius. Only about a dozen a week are eviscerated on the premises for local sales and there is a substantial turkey trade at holiday times and at Christmas (1,500 birds).

## Adulterations

The Hampshire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority and is responsible for the administration of the Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, which place restrictions on the addition to, or abstraction of substances from, food and drugs.

I am indebted to Mr. J.S. Preston, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures under the Food and Drugs Act, for the following information on samples taken in the district during the year:-

"During the year ended the 31st March, 1969, 149 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the area of the Petersfield Rural District Council.

### Milk Samples

103 samples of milk, including 49 of "Channel Islands", were obtained, five being the subject of adverse reports.

The adverse reports were in respect of:-

- (1) Two samples which were deficient in fat. The deficiencies were not such as to call for legal proceedings but the details were brought to the notice of the vendors concerned.
- (2) Two samples, from the same producer, which contained added water. Proceedings were instituted and resulted in an Absolute Discharge with costs amounting to £21.
- (3) A sample, which was submitted as the result of a consumer complaint, was found to contain pupae of fruit flies. The contamination was not such as to warrant legal proceedings but the matter was brought to the notice of the vendor concerned.



## Adulterations - continued

### Miscellaneous Samples

46 samples of articles other than milk were obtained. Of these, four, all of which were submitted as the result of consumer complaints, were the subject of adverse reports.

The adverse reports were in respect of:-

- (1) A sample of grapefruit segments in syrup which was found to contain 220 parts per million of tin. Although the contamination was within the accepted maximum for canned goods, it indicated some corrosion. The result was made known to the distributor, who withdrew further stocks from sale and referred the complaint to the canners in the country of origin.
- (2) A sample of bread which was found to contain dirty dough, fragments of burnt bread and traces of iron and mineral oil. Proceedings were taken and resulted in a fine of £10 with costs amounting to 15 guineas.
- (3) A sample of corned beef which contained slightly discoloured portions. It was found to contain small papillae, probably derived from an animal's tongue. The attention of the firm responsible for the distribution of this product was drawn to the complaint.
- (4) A sample of bread which had a number of dark coloured fragments in the loaf texture. Analysis showed this to consist only of discoloured wheat gluten and the matter was dealt with by a warning.

Additionally, proceedings were instituted in respect of a loaf of bread contaminated with mould which was again the subject of a consumer complaint. Proceedings resulted in a fine of £10 with 10 guineas costs.

### General

The usual attention was given to the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act with regard to the labelling of food and drugs. No complaints of consequence occurred.

## RODENT CONTROL

Rodent Control in the area is carried out by Council staff, by private servicing companies and by local rat catchers.

For some years now, the Council's service has been free to both domestic and business premises. The Council employs two Rodent Operators, who normally work independently but assist one another from time to time. Training and considerable experience are necessary before an Operator can work efficiently and it is to be hoped that the replacement rate of the last few years is not repeated.

Rat infestation last winter was heavier than for some years past and some of the major infestations on farms were as bad as I remember.

There was a marked increase at or near poultry rearing premises, due frequently to casual disposal of carcasses, either on waste ground or in pits which were not rat-proof or, in some cases, were not capable of being rat-proofed. Such pits form an ideal breeding place for rats because housing, food and necessary moisture are available. Baiting with warfarin is frequently ineffective because it is not consistently taken in sufficient quantities.

I sought the co-operation of all concerned in ensuring the destruction of dead birds by incineration or burying in pits built of rat-proof materials.

Farmers were reminded that the disposal of waste grain by incineration or burial also helps prevent infestations which arise from surface dumping.

In the case of one poultry farm, treatments with warfarin over many weeks proved unsuccessful but, subsequently, the infestation was cleared with coumatetralyl. At the same time, dumped birds were made unpalatable so that the rats were encouraged to take the bait laid.

No complaints were received in respect of treatment and it was not necessary to serve any statutory notices during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The following table gives details of inspections and treatments for the year 1968 .... N.B. Local Authority's properties. Council houses are included under dwelling houses. Premises occupied in connection with the Council's undertakings are included under this heading.

Combined dwelling and business premises occupied by the same person are included under business premises.



## Rodent Control - continued

Farms, smallholdings, poultry farms and other premises devoted to commercial agriculture or horticulture are included under agricultural property and not under business premises.

Unclassified property: properties which do not appropriately fall under other classifications are included under business premises.

Degree of infestation: "major" includes only properties with an estimated rat population exceeding twenty rats.

Treatment means a complete operation for the destruction of rats or mice in the property.

R O D E N T C O N T R O L	T Y P E   O F   P R O P E R T Y				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricul- tural
	Local Authority  (1)	Dwelling Houses  (2)	All other (including business premises)  (3)	Totals of Columns (1)(2)(3)  (4)	
Number of properties in Local Authority's district	16	8,506	956	9,478	630
Number of <u>properties</u> <u>inspected</u> as a result of <u>notification:</u>	5	375	121	501	107
Number of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common rat - <u>Major</u>	1	3	2	6	17
- <u>Minor</u>	2	293	89	384	81
House mouse - <u>Major</u>	1	1	2	4	2
- <u>Minor</u>	1	49	30	80	25
Number of <u>properties</u> <u>inspected</u> in the course of <u>survey under the Act:</u>	60	980	211	1,251	566
Number of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common rat - <u>Major</u>	1	2	3	6	32
- <u>Minor</u>	28	484	88	600	303
House mouse - <u>Major</u>	-	-	1	1	1
- <u>Minor</u>	2	91	45	138	64
Number of <u>properties</u> <u>otherwise inspected</u> (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	17	51	103	171	11
Number of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common rat - <u>Major</u>	-	-	-	-	-
- <u>Minor</u>	-	5	5	10	5
House mouse - <u>Major</u>	-	-	-	-	-
- <u>Minor</u>	-	1	7	8	2
Total number of properties inspected	82	1,406	435	1,923	684
Number of infested properties	36	929	272	1,237	532
Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	-	2	1	3	-



## FACTORIES

Mr. R.F. Bloor is H.M. Inspector of Factories for the Portsmouth District, which includes the Petersfield Rural District. His address is Princes House, Kings Terrace, Southsea. (Tel: Portsmouth 26332/3)

Inspections under the Factories Act, 1937, for purposes as to health:

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written notices
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	57	20	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	-	-	-
TOTALS	57	20	-





